



## Alice Asafu-Adjaye's **MUSTARD**

Alice Asafu-Adjaye employs a design philosophy in fashion or architecture with beautifully crafted or functional elements: One that responds to environmental shelter needs, comfort, and basic human requirements. After decades studying and working in the United Kingdom, she returns to further a career in Ghana as the 'Area girl' in the edgy Accra suburb of Abelenkpe. An enviable résumé of experience tallies the stables of leading international architectural design studios such as Foster and Partners, and Adjaye Associates. Headhunted for projects such as the Stephen Lawrence Centre [built in memory of the teenager killed in London by racist youths] and Rivington Place, Centre for the arts organizations, Autograph and INIVA, Alice was until recently, Director at Adjaye Associates, heading the studio's African projects from Accra, Ghana. Instrumental in creating the recently launched concept store Alara, in Lagos, she headed teams for design of the IFC headquarters in Dakar, residential building Hallmark House in Johannesburg, and the Eugene Gasana Foundation Paediatric Cancer Hospital in Rwanda, until MUSTARD, her design and consultancy studio in Ghana. Recent entries in her sketchbook after a road trip to Wa reveal simple post and beam structures that line the route from Accra, providing shade and shelter for all walks of life. Intricate detail of sun and ventilation screen-off a Catholic chapel sat quietly in a beautiful array of brightly colored mosques, animating the route to Wa from Wenchi: design lived; but not part of a mathematically defined philosophy. Derisive at how ridiculous it may sound, she voices an intention to be a fashion designer someday. With glocalised experiences, we await 'beautiful stuff' from Alice Asafu-Adjaye's MUSTARD stable.

MUSTARD has since caught the attention of developers and private clients with projects in Kumasi and Accra.